

NOTICE

**THIS WILL BE THE LAST QUARTERLY PUBLICATION
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THE NORTH AMERICAN INDUSTRY CLASSIFICATION
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**THERE WILL BE NO HISTORICAL COMPARISONS FOR
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FOURTH QUARTER 2000 COVERED EMPLOYMENT AND WAGES

The average quarterly employment for Louisiana during fourth quarter 2000 increased by 14,497, or 0.8%, from the same period a year ago. Employment increased by 13,273, or 0.7%, from the third quarter 2000. The following table shows the average quarterly employment data for fourth quarter 2000, third quarter 2000, and fourth quarter 1999 and the percent change for the major industry divisions.

	QTR 004	QTR 003	QTR 994	% CHG FROM PREV QTR	% CHG FROM PREV YR
Total	1,878,421	1,865,148	1,863,924	0.7%	0.8%
Agriculture Forestry & Fishing	18,309	19,346	18,874	-5.4%	-3.0%
Mining	49,155	49,017	46,367	0.3%	6.0%
Contract Construction	132,654	136,972	135,089	-3.2%	-1.8%
Manufacturing	183,028	183,328	184,900	-0.2%	-1.0%
Transp. and Public Utilities	132,748	131,749	130,224	0.8%	1.9%
Wholesale Trade	95,519	96,707	95,922	-1.2%	-0.4%
Retail Trade	361,079	355,675	358,901	1.5%	0.6%
Finance, Insurance & Real Estate	84,047	84,923	84,644	-1.0%	-0.7%
Services	716,909	699,746	709,390	2.5%	1.1%
Public Administration	100,954	103,508	99,613	-2.5%	1.3%

The number of reporting units for fourth quarter 2000 decreased by 850 units, or 0.7%, from the same period a year ago and decreased 1,490 units, or 1.3%, from the previous quarter. The following table shows the average number of units for fourth quarter 2000, third quarter 2000, and fourth quarter 1999 and the percent change for the major industry divisions.

	QTR 004	QTR 003	QTR 994	% CHG FROM PREV QTR	% CHG FROM PREV YR
Total	116,140	117,630	116,990	-1.3%	-0.7%
Agriculture Forestry & Fishing	2,352	2,379	2,359	-1.1%	-0.3%
Mining	1,932	1,981	1,952	-2.5%	-1.0%
Contract Construction	9,758	10,066	10,137	-3.1%	-3.7%
Manufacturing	4,929	4,995	4,882	-1.3%	1.0%
Transp. and Public Utilities	7,121	7,245	7,281	-1.7%	-2.2%
Wholesale Trade	9,345	9,544	9,690	-2.1%	-3.6%
Retail Trade	23,289	23,386	23,257	-0.4%	0.1%
Finance, Insurance & Real Estate	11,393	11,474	11,395	-0.7%	0.0%
Services	41,075	41,574	41,206	-1.2%	-0.3%
Public Administration	3,493	3,506	3,484	-0.4%	0.3%

Total wages for fourth quarter 2000 increased by 0.7% from the same period a year ago and increased by 8.8% from third quarter 2000. The average weekly wage for fourth quarter 2000 was \$565.07, an increase of 8.0% from the third quarter 2000 figure of \$523.28. Table 1 includes average weekly wage data for all parishes within each industry division by Regional Labor Market Area. Table 2 includes the average weekly wage data by major industry division and statewide.